GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1619
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2003
BLACKLISTED NGOS
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated several schemes and taken new initiatives, especially for wider coverage and Holistic Rehabilitation of Person with Disabilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are various on-going schemes/programmes of this Ministry for the welfare of the persons with disabilities. There are six National Institutes/Apex level Institutions set up in each major area of disability which work inter-alia towards manpower development through long term and short term training programmes, provide rehabilitation service, undertake functional research etc. The Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), a public sector undertaking under the aegis of this Ministry manufactures and promotes availability, supply and distribution of quality aids and appliances for persons with disabilities. The National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation (NHFDC), set up in 1997, provides financial assistance to persons with disabilities on soft terms for self-employment and income generating activities. Schemes are also under implementation for providing support to non-government organizations working for various programmes for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.

The Government have also taken initiatives for ensuring wider coverage and holistic rehabilitation of persons with disabilities. Over hundred districts have been identified for setting up District Centers with the objective of providing comprehensive rehabilitation services. Schemes are also under implementation for setting up Composite Regional Centres for providing composite rehabilitation services and Regional Rehabilitation Centres (RRCs) for persons with spinal injuries and other orthopaedic disabilities. Besides, the National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (NPRPD) scheme has been approved in the State sector for creating infrastructure at State/District/Block and Gram Panchayat level for providing comprehensive rehabilitation services. A scheme has also been approved for setting up of four auxiliary Production Centres of Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) to expand the production capacity and for easy availability of quality aids and appliances. The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities has become functional.